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Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda*
Other matters

Declarations, reservations, objections and notifications of withdrawal of reservations relating to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

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I. Introduction

1. Article 28 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women provides that the Secretary-General shall receive and circulate to all States the texts of reservations made by States at the time of ratification of, or accession to, the Convention. The present report contains information on the declarations, reservations, objections and notifications of withdrawal of reservations made by States parties with respect to the Convention during the period from 1 July 2002 to 1 June 2004, reproduced in *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General: Status as at 31 December 2003*.[1] Information for 2004 is taken from the multilateral treaties web site of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat. The present report updates the consolidated report, which had been submitted to the twelfth meeting of States parties, held on 29 August 2002 (CEDAW/SP/2002/2).

2. Reservations made during the reporting period by States parties are contained in section II.B, objections are contained in section II.C, notifications of withdrawals of reservations are reflected in section II.D and other communications received by the Secretary-General are reflected in section II.E. Annex I reflects, in tabular form, the overall status of the declarations, reservations, objections and notifications of withdrawal of reservations by States parties related to articles of the Convention. Annex II gives an overview of remaining reservations and declarations to the articles of the Convention, while annex III reflects the States parties that maintain reservations.

II. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

A. General information

3. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979. It entered into force on 3 September 1981, in accordance with the provisions of its article 27. The status of States parties with respect to the Convention as at 1 June 2004 is contained in annex IV.

4. As at 1 June 2004, 43 States parties had deposited with the Secretary-General instruments of acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention, concerning the Committee's meeting time (see annex V for a list of States parties that have accepted the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1).

5. The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999. In accordance with its article 15 (i), the Optional Protocol was opened for signature, ratification and accession at United Nations Headquarters in New York, on 10 December 1999 and entered into force on 22 December 2000. As at 1 June 2004, 60 States parties had ratified or acceded to the Optional Protocol, while 75 States parties had signed it (see annex VI).

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[1] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.04.V.2, ST/LEG/SER.E/22 (Vol. I).

B. Text of declarations and reservations

Syrian Arab Republic

[Original: Arabic]
[28 March 2003]

Reservations

Subject to reservations to article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, concerning the grant of a woman's nationality to her children, article 15, paragraph 4, concerning freedom of movement and of residence and domicile, article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g), concerning equal rights and responsibilities during marriage and at its dissolution with regard to guardianship, the rights to choose a family name, maintenance and adoption, article 16, paragraph 2, concerning the legal effect of the betrothal and the marriage of a child, in as much as this provision is incompatible with the provisions of the Islamic Shariah, and article 29, paragraph 1, concerning arbitration between States in the event of a dispute.

The accession of the Syrian Arab Republic to this Convention shall in no way signify recognition of Israel or entail entry into any dealings with Israel in the context of the provisions of the Convention.

C. Objections to certain declarations and reservations

Objection by Austria to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession

[Original: English]
[31 March 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession:

The Government of Austria has examined the reservation to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women made by the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain in its note to the Secretary-General of 18 June 2002, regarding articles 2, 9, paragraph 2, 15, paragraph 4 and 16.

The reservation to article 9, paragraph 2 and article 15, paragraph 4, if put into practice, would inevitably result in discrimination against women on the basis of sex. This is contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention.

The Government of Austria further considers that, in the absence of further clarification, the reservation to articles 2 and 16, which does not clearly specify the extent of Bahrain's derogation from the provisions in question, raises doubts as to the degree of commitment assumed by Bahrain in becoming a party to the Convention since it refers to the contents of Islamic Shariah.

The Government of Austria would like to recall that, according to article 28 (2) of the Convention as well as customary international law as codified in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of a treaty shall not be permitted.

It is in the common interest of States that treaties to which they have chosen to become parties are respected as to their object and purpose, by all parties, and that

States are prepared to undertake any legislative changes necessary to comply with their obligations under the treaties.

For these reasons, the Government of Austria objects to this reservation made by the Government of Bahrain.

This position, however, does not preclude the entry into force in its entirety of the Convention between Bahrain and Austria.

Objection by Austria to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[14 August 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of Austria has examined the reservation made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women regarding article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, and article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g) and article 16, paragraph 2.

The Government of Austria finds that the reservations to article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g), if put into practice, would inevitably result in discrimination against women on the basis of sex. This is contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention.

The Government of Austria further considers that, in the absence of further clarification, the reservation to article 16, paragraph 2, which refers to the contents of Islamic Shariah, does not clearly specify the extent of the reservation and therefore raises doubts as to the degree of commitment assumed by the Syrian Arab Republic in becoming a party to the Convention.

The Government of Austria would like to recall that, according to article 28, paragraph 2, of the Convention as well as customary international law as codified in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of a treaty shall not be permitted.

It is in the common interest of States that treaties to which they have chosen to become parties are respected as to their object and purpose, by all parties, and that the States are prepared to undertake any legislative changes necessary to comply with their obligations under the treaties.

For these reasons, the Government of Austria objects to the aforementioned reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

This position, however, does not preclude the entry into force in its entirety of the Convention between the Syrian Arab Republic and Austria.

Objection by Denmark to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession

[Original: English]
[28 February 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession:

The Government of Denmark has examined the reservations made by the Government of Bahrain upon accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women regarding article 2, paragraph 2 of article 9, and paragraph 4 of article 15, and article 16.

The Government of Denmark finds that the reservations to articles 2 and 16 with reference to the provisions of Islamic Shariah is of unlimited scope and undefined character. Consequently, the Government of Denmark considers the said reservations as being incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention and accordingly inadmissible and without effect under international law.

The Government of Denmark furthermore notes that the reservations to paragraph 2 of article 9 and to paragraph 4 of article 15 of the Convention seek to exclude an obligation of non-discrimination, which is the aim of the Convention. The Government of Denmark finds that these reservations made by the Government of Bahrain are not in conformity with the object and purpose of the Convention.

The Government of Denmark therefore objects to the aforementioned reservations made by the Government of Bahrain to the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women. This shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention in its entirety between Bahrain and Denmark.

The Government of Denmark recommends the Government of Bahrain to reconsider its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Objection by Denmark to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[27 May 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of Denmark has examined the reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women regarding article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f), and (g) and article 16, paragraph 2, in its note of 7 April 2003 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, distributed under reference No. C.N.267.2003. TREATIES-6.

The Government of Denmark finds that the reservation to article 2 seeks to evade the obligation of non-discrimination, which is the aim of the Convention. The Government of Denmark is of the view that a general reservation to one of the core articles of the Convention raises doubts as to the commitment of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to fulfil its obligations under the Convention.

The Government of Denmark further notes that the reservations to article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f), and (g) and article 16, paragraph 2, would inevitably result in discrimination against women on the basis of sex, which is contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention. It should be borne in mind that the principles of equal rights of men and women and non-discrimination on the basis of sex are set forth in the Charter of the United

Nations as one of the purposes of the Organization, as well as in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948.

The Government of Denmark finds that these reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic are not in conformity with the object and purpose of the Convention.

The Government of Denmark recalls that according to article 28, paragraph 2, of the Convention, a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted.

The Government of Denmark therefore objects to the aforementioned reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

This shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention in its entirety between the Syrian Arab Republic and Denmark.

The Government of Denmark recommends the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to reconsider its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Objection by Estonia to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[1 April 2004]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of Estonia has carefully examined the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic to article 2, paragraph 2 of article 9, paragraph 4 of article 15 and to paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g) of article 16 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Article 2 of the Convention is one of the core articles of the Convention. By making a reservation to this article, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic is making a reservation of general scope that renders the provisions of the Convention completely ineffective. The Government of Estonia considers the reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention.

The reservations to article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, and article 16, paragraphs 1 (c) , (d), (f) and (g), if put into practice, would inevitably result in discrimination against women on the basis of sex, which is contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention. It should be borne in mind that the principles of equal rights of men and women and of non-discrimination on the basis of sex are set forth in the Charter of the United Nations as one of the purposes of the Organization, as well as in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948.

The reservation to article 16, paragraph 2, makes a general reference to the Islamic Shariah. The Government of Estonia is of the view that in the absence of further clarification, this reservation, which does not clearly specify the extent of the Syrian Arab Republic's derogation from the provision in question, raises doubts as to the commitment of the Syrian Arab Republic to the object and purpose of the Convention.

The Government of Estonia recalls that according to article 28, paragraph 2, of the Convention, a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the convention shall not be permitted.

The Government of Estonia therefore objects to the aforementioned reservation made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention.

This objection does not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the Syrian Arab Republic and Estonia. The Convention will thus become operative between the two States without the Syrian Arab Republic benefiting from its reservations.

The Government of Estonia recommends the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to reconsider its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Objection by Finland to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession

[Original: English]
[10 March 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession:

The Government of Finland has carefully examined the contents of the reservations made by the Government of Bahrain to article 2, paragraph 2 of article 9, paragraph 4 of article 15 and article 16 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The Government of Finland notes that a reservation, which consists of a general reference to religious or other national law without specifying its contents, does not clearly define to other parties to the Convention the extent to which the reserving State commits itself to the Convention and therefore creates serious doubts as to the commitment of the receiving State to fulfil its obligations under the Convention. Such reservations are subject to the general principle of treaty interpretation according to which a party may not invoke the provisions of its domestic law as justification for a failure to perform its treaty obligations.

The Government of Finland further notes that the reservations made by Bahrain, addressing some of the most essential provisions of the Convention, and aiming to exclude some of the fundamental obligations under it, are in contradiction with the object and purpose of the Convention.

The Government of Finland also recalls part VI, article 28, of the Convention according to which reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention are not permitted.

The Government of Finland therefore objects to the above-mentioned reservations made by the Government of Bahrain to the Convention.

This objection does not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between Bahrain and Finland. The Convention will thus become operative between the two States without Bahrain benefiting from its reservations.

Objection by Finland to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[17 June 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of Finland has carefully examined the contents of the reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to article 2, paragraph 2 of article 9, paragraph 4 of article 15 and to paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g) of article 16 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The Government of Finland notes that a reservation, which consists of a general reference to religious or other national law without specifying its contents, does not clearly define for other Parties to the Convention the extent to which the reserving State commits itself to the Convention and therefore creates serious doubts as to the commitment of the reserving State to fulfil its obligations under the Convention. Such reservations are subject to the general principle of treaty interpretation according to which a party may not invoke the provisions of its domestic law as justification for a failure to perform its treaty obligations.

The Government of Finland further notes that the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic, addressing some of the most essential provisions of the Convention and aiming to exclude some of the fundamental obligations under it, are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention.

The Government of Finland also recalls part VI, article 28, of the Convention, according to which reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention are not permitted.

The Government of Finland therefore objects to the aforementioned reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention.

This objection does not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the Syrian Arab Republic and Finland. The Convention will thus become operative between the two States without the Syrian Arab Republic benefiting from its reservations.

Objection by France to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession

[Original: French]
[25 April 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession:

The Government of France has examined the reservations made by the Government of Bahrain upon accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 18 December 1979. The Government of France considers that, by making the implementation of articles 2 and 16 of the Convention subject to respect for the Islamic Shariah, the Government of Bahrain is making two reservations of such a general and indeterminate scope that it is not possible to ascertain which changes to obligations under the Convention they are intended to introduce. Consequently, the Government of France considers that the reservations as formulated could make the provisions of the Convention completely

ineffective. For these reasons, the Government of France objects to the reservations made in respect of articles 2 and 16 of the Convention, which it considers to be reservations likely to be incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention.

The Government of France objects to the reservations made in respect of article 9, paragraph 2, and article 15, paragraph 4, of the Convention.

The Government of France notes that these objections shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women between Bahrain and France.

Objection by France to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: French]
[21 July 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of France has examined the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession to the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The Government of France considers that, by making a reservation to article 2 of the Convention, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic is making a reservation of general scope that renders the provisions of the Convention completely ineffective. For this reason, the Government of France objects to the reservation, which it considers to be incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention.

The Government of France objects to the reservations made to article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4 and article 16, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Convention. The Government of France notes that these objections do not preclude the entry into force of the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Form of Discrimination against Women between Syria and France.

Objection by Germany to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession

[Original: English]
[18 February 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession:

The Government of Germany has examined the reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women made by the Government of Bahrain at the time of accession to the Convention.

The Government of Germany is of the view that the reservations with regard to the compatibility of the rules of articles 2 and 16 of the Convention with the precepts of Islamic Shariah raise doubts as to commitment of Bahrain to fulfil its obligations under the Convention. These reservations are therefore incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention.

The reservations to article 9, paragraph 2, and article 15, paragraph 4, if put into practice, would inevitably result in discrimination against women on the basis of sex, which is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention.

According to article 28, paragraph 2, of the Convention reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted.

Therefore, the Government of Germany objects to the aforesaid reservations made by the Government of Bahrain to the Convention.

This objection does not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between Germany and Bahrain.

Objection by Germany to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[25 August 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of Germany has examined the reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in respect of article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f), and (g) and article 16, paragraph 2.

The Government of Germany finds that the aforesaid reservations would limit the responsibilities of the reserving State with regard to essential provisions of the Convention and therefore raise doubts as to the commitment assumed by this State in acceding to the Convention.

Consequently, the Government of Germany considers that these reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention.

According to article 28, paragraph 2, of the Convention reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted.

The Government of Germany therefore objects to the aforementioned reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

This objection does not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between Germany and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Objection by Greece to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession

[Original: English]
[13 June 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession:

The Government of Greece has examined the reservations made by the Government of Bahrain upon accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The Government of Greece considers that the reservations with respect to articles 2 and 16, which contain a reference to the provisions of the Islamic Shariah, are of unlimited scope and, therefore, incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention.

The Government of Greece recalls that, according to article 28, paragraph 2, of the Convention, a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted.

The Government of Greece therefore objects to the aforementioned reservations made by the Government of Bahrain to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. This shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention in its entirety between Bahrain and Greece.

Objection by Greece to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[4 March 2004]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of Greece has examined the reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The Government of Greece is of the view that the reservation in respect of article 2, which is a core provision of the Convention, is of a general character and is, therefore, contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention.

It also considers that the reservation regarding article 16, paragraph 2, which contains a reference to the provisions of the Islamic Shariah, is of unlimited scope and is, similarly, incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention.

The Government of Greece recalls that according to article 28, paragraph 2 of the Convention, a reservation which is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted.

Consequently, the Government of Greece objects to the aforementioned reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. This shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the Syrian Arab Republic and Greece.

Objection by Italy to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[2 September 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of Italy has examined the reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic at the time of its accession to the

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, regarding article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, and article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g) and article 16, paragraph 2.

The Government of Italy considers that the reservations to article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g), are incompatible with the object and purpose of the above-mentioned Convention, as they contrast with the commitment of all parties to an effective implementation of the basic principles established in the Convention.

Furthermore, the Government of Italy underlines that the reservation with respect to article 16, paragraph 2, of the Convention, concerning the Islamic Shariah of the Syrian Arab Republic, may limit the responsibilities and obligations of the reserving State under the Convention, and therefore raises serious doubts about the real extent of the commitment undertaken by the Syrian Arab Republic at the time of its accession to the Convention.

The Government of Italy recalls that, according to article 28, paragraph 2, of the Convention, a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted.

As a consequence, the Government of Italy objects to the above-mentioned reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

This objection, however, shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the Government of Italy and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Objection by the Netherlands to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession

[Original: English]
[22 November 2002]

With regard to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession:

The Government of the Netherlands has examined the reservations made by the Government of Bahrain at the time of its accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The Government of the Netherlands considers that the reservations with respect to article 9, paragraph 2, and article 15, paragraph 4, of the Convention are reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention.

Furthermore, the Government of the Netherlands considers that the reservations with respect to articles 2 and 16 of the Convention, concerning the Islamic Shariah of Bahrain, reservations which seek to limit the responsibilities of the reserving State under the Convention by invoking the Islamic Shariah, may raise doubts as to the commitment of this State to the object and purpose of the Convention and, moreover, contribute to undermining the basis of international treaty law.

The Government of the Netherlands recalls that, according to paragraph 2 of article 28 of the Convention, a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted.

It is in the common interest of States that treaties to which they have chosen to become party are respected, as to their object and purpose, by all parties and that States are prepared to undertake any legislative changes necessary to comply with their obligations under the treaties.

The Government of the Netherlands therefore objects to the aforesaid reservations made by the Government of Bahrain to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

This objection shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the Netherlands and Bahrain.

Objection by the Netherlands to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[27 May 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of the Netherlands has examined the reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic at the time of its accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The Government of the Netherlands considers that the reservations with respect to article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, and article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g), of the Convention are reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention.

Furthermore, the Government of the Netherlands considers that the reservation with respect to article 16, paragraph 2, of the Convention, concerning the Islamic Shariah of the Syrian Arab Republic, a reservation which seeks to limit the responsibilities of the reserving State under the Convention by invoking the Islamic Shariah, may raise doubts as to the commitment of this State to the object and purpose of the Convention and, moreover, contribute to undermining the basis of international treaty law. The Government of the Netherlands recalls that, according to paragraph 2 of article 28 of the Convention, a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted.

It is in the common interest of States that treaties to which they have chosen to become party are respected, as to their object and purpose, by all parties and that States are prepared to undertake any legislative changes necessary to comply with their obligations under the treaties.

The Government of the Netherlands therefore objects to the aforesaid reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

This objection shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the Netherlands and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Objection by Norway to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[5 April 2004]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of Norway has examined the reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women regarding article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f), and (g) and article 16, paragraph 2.

The aforesaid reservations, as they relate to the core provisions of the Convention, render the provisions of the Convention ineffective. Moreover, and due to the reference to Islamic Shariah, it is not clearly defined for other States parties to what extent the reserving State has undertaken the obligations of the Convention. The Government of Norway therefore objects to the aforesaid reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic.

This objection does not preclude the entry into force in its entirety of the Convention between Norway and the Syrian Arab Republic. The Convention thus becomes operative between Norway and the Syrian Arab Republic without the Syrian Arab Republic benefiting from the aforesaid reservations.

Objection by Romania to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[3 December 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of Romania has examined the reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic at the time of its accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, regarding article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, and article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g) and article 16, paragraph 2.

The Government of Romania considers that the reservations to article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g), and article 16, paragraph 2, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women are incompatible with the object and purpose of the above-mentioned Convention, taking into account the provisions of article 19 (c) of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969).

As a consequence, the Government of Romania objects to the above-mentioned reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

This objection, however, shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the Government of Romania and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Objection by Spain to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[31 July 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of Spain has examined the reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, and article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g) and article 16, paragraph 2 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, upon acceding to the Convention.

The Government of Spain deems the above-mentioned reservations to be contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention, since they affect the fundamental obligations of States parties thereunder. Moreover, the reservation to article 16, paragraph 2, of the Convention refers to the Islamic Shariah, without specifying its content, which raises doubts as to the degree of commitment of the Syrian Arab Republic in acceding to the Convention.

The Government of Spain recalls that, under article 28, paragraph 2, of the Convention, reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention are not permitted.

Accordingly, the Government of Spain objects to the reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

This objection does not prevent the entry into force of the Convention between Spain and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Objection by Sweden to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession

[Original: English]
[27 November 2002]

With regard to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession:

The Government of Sweden has examined the reservation made by Bahrain upon acceding to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, regarding articles 2, 9, paragraph 2, 15, paragraph 4, and 16.

The reservation to articles 9, paragraph 2 and 15, paragraph 4, if put into practice, would inevitably result in discrimination against women on the basis of sex, which is contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention. It should be borne in mind that the principles of the equal rights of men and women and of non-discrimination on the basis of sex are set forth in the Charter of the United Nations as one of the purposes of the Organization, as well as in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948.

The reservation to articles 2 and 16 makes general references to Islamic Shariah. The Government of Sweden is of the view that, in the absence of further clarification, this reservation, which does not clearly specify the extent of Bahrain's

derogation from the provisions in question, raises serious doubts as to the commitment of Bahrain to the object and purpose of the Convention.

According to article 28, paragraph 2, of the Convention, reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted. It is in the common interest of States that treaties to which they have chosen to become parties are respected as to their object and purpose by all parties, and that States are prepared to undertake any legislative changes necessary to comply with their obligations under the treaties.

The Government of Sweden objects to the aforesaid reservations made by the Government of Bahrain to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and considers the reservation null and void.

This objection shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between Bahrain and Sweden. The Convention enters into force in its entirety between the two States, without Bahrain benefiting from its reservation.

Objection by Sweden to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[11 July 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of Sweden has examined the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon acceding to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, regarding article 2, article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4, and article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f), and (g) and article 16, paragraph 2, of the Convention.

Article 2 of the Convention is one of the core articles of the Convention. A general reservation to this article seriously raises doubts as to the commitment of the Syrian Arab Republic to the object and purpose of the Convention.

The reservations to article 9, paragraph 2, article 15, paragraph 4 and article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g), if put into practice, would inevitably result in discrimination against women on the basis of sex, which is contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention. It should be borne in mind that the principles of the equal rights between men and women and of non-discrimination on the basis of sex are set forth in the Charter of the United Nations as one of the purposes of the Organization, as well as in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948.

The reservation to article 16, paragraph 2, makes a general reference to Islamic Shariah. The Government of Sweden is of the view that in the absence of further clarification, this reservation, which does not clearly specify the extent of the Syrian Arab Republic's derogation from the provision in question, raises serious doubts as to the commitment of the Syrian Arab Republic to the object and purpose of the Convention.

According to article 28, paragraph 2, of the Convention, reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted. It is in the common interest of all States that treaties to which they have chosen to

be become parties are respected as to their object and purpose, by all parties, and that States are prepared to undertake any legislative changes necessary to comply with their obligations under the treaties.

The Government of Sweden therefore objects to the aforesaid reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

This objection shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the Syrian Arab Republic and Sweden. The Convention enters into force in its entirety between the States, without the Syrian Arab Republic benefiting from its reservations.

Objection by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession

[Original: English]
[26 June 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by Bahrain upon accession:

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has examined the reservations made by the Government of Bahrain to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (New York, 18 December 1979) on 18 June 2002 in respect of article 2, in order to ensure its implementation within the bounds of the provisions of the Islamic Shariah, and article 16, in so far as it is incompatible with the provisions of the Islamic Shariah.

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland notes that a reservation, which consists of a general reference to national law without specifying its contents, does not clearly define for the other States parties to the Convention the extent to which the reserving State has accepted the obligations of the Convention. The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland therefore objects to the aforesaid reservations made by the Government of Bahrain.

This objection shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Objection by the United Kingdom of the Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession

[Original: English]
[26 June 2003]

With regard to the reservations made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon accession:

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has examined the reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (New York, 18 December 1979) on 28 March 2003 in respect of article 2 and article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g), concerning equal rights and responsibilities during marriage and at its dissolution with regard to guardianship,

the right to choose a family name, maintenance and adoption and article 16, paragraph 2, concerning the legal effect of the betrothal and the marriage of a child, inasmuch as this provision is incompatible with the provisions of the Islamic Shariah.

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland notes that the reservation of the Syrian Arab Republic specifies particular provisions of the Convention articles to which the reservation is addressed. Nevertheless, this reservation does not clearly define for the other States parties to the Convention the extent to which the reserving State has accepted the obligations of the Convention. The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland therefore objects to the aforesaid reservations made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic.

This objection shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Syrian Arab Republic.

D. Notifications of withdrawal of certain reservations

Belgium

In a communication received on 8 July 2002, the Government of Belgium informed the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw its reservations, made upon ratification, with respect to article 15, paragraphs 2 and 3.

France

On 22 December 2003, the Government of France informed the Secretary-General that it had decided to lift its reservations relating to article 5 (b) and article 16, paragraph 1 (d), made upon ratification.

New Zealand

On 5 September 2003, the Government of New Zealand informed the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw its reservation in respect only of the metropolitan territory of New Zealand. The reservation reads as follows:

> "The Government of New Zealand, the Government of Cook Islands and the Government of Niue reserve the right not to apply the provisions of article 11, paragraph 2 (b)."

Moreover, the Government of New Zealand notified the Secretary-General of the following territorial exclusion:

> "Declares that, consistent with the constitutional status of Tokelau and taking into account the commitment of the Government of New Zealand to the development of self-government for Tokelau through an act of self-determination under the Charter of the United Nations, the withdrawal of this reservation shall not extend to Tokelau unless and until a Declaration to this

effect is lodged by the Government of New Zealand with the Depository on the basis of appropriate consultation with that Territory."

Switzerland

On 29 April 2004, the Government of Switzerland notified the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw its reservation in respect of article 7 (b) made upon ratification.

E. Communications received by the Secretary-General

France

On 17 June 2002, the Secretary-General received from the Government of France the following communication:

"The Government of the French Republic has examined the reservation made by the Government of Mauritania upon accession to the Convention of 18 December 1979 on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. By stating that it approves the Convention in each and every one of its parts which are not contrary to Islamic Shariah and to its Constitution, the Government of Mauritania formulates a reservation of general, indeterminate scope that gives the other States parties no idea which provisions of the Convention are currently affected by the reservation or might be affected in future. The Government of the French Republic considers that the reservation could make the provisions of the Convention ineffective and objects to it."

Ireland

On 2 April 2002,[2] the Secretary-General received from the Government of Ireland the following communication:

"The Government of Ireland has examined the reservations made by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to paragraph (f) of article 2 and to paragraph 2 of article 9 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, at the time of its accession thereto.

"The Government of Ireland recalls that, by acceding to the Convention, a State commits itself to adopt the measures required for the elimination of discrimination, in all forms and manifestations, against women.

"The Government of Ireland notes that the reservation to paragraph (f) of article 2 aims at excluding the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from the obligation to adopt necessary measures, including those of a legislative character, to eliminate any form of discrimination against women. This provision touches upon a key element for the effective elimination of discrimination against women.

[2] This communication, dated 2 April 2002, should have been included in CEDAW/C/2002/2.

"The Government of Ireland further notes that the reservation to paragraph 2 of article 9 of the Convention aims to exclude an obligation of non-discrimination, which is the object of the Convention.

"The Government of Ireland considers that the obligations contained in paragraph (f) of article 2 and paragraph 2 of article 9 are so central to the aims of the Convention as to render the aforesaid reservations contrary to its object and purpose.

"The Government of Ireland recalls that, in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 28 of the Convention, a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted.

"The Government of Ireland therefore objects to the aforesaid reservations made by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

"This objection does not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between Ireland and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea."

Annex I

Status of declarations, reservations, objections and notifications of withdrawal of reservations by States parties related to articles of the Convention, as at 1 June 2004

State party	*Articles for which declarations or reservations have been made*	*States parties that have raised objections*	*Articles for which reservations have been withdrawn*
Algeria	2 9, para. 2 15, para. 4 16 29	Germany Netherlands Norway/Sweden Portugal Denmark	
Argentina	29, para. 1		
Australia	11, para. 2		
Austria	[7, para. (b)] 11, para. 1 (f)		7, para. (b)
Bahamas	2, para. (a) 9, para. 2 16, para. 1 (h) 29, para. 1		
Bahrain	2	Austria, Denmark Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom	
	9, para. 2	Austria, Denmark Finland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden	
	15, para. 4	Austria, Denmark Finland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden	
	16	Austria, Denmark Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	
	29, para.1		

State party	*Articles for which declarations or reservations have been made*	*States parties that have raised objections*	*Articles for which reservations have been withdrawn*
Bangladesh	2	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	
	[13, para. (a)]	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	13, para. (a)
	[16, paras. 1] (c) [and (f)]	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	16, para. 1 (f)
Belarus	[29, para. 1]		29, para. 1
Belgium	[7] [15, paras. 2 and 3]		7 15, paras. 2 and 3
Brazil	[15, para. 4]	Germany Netherlands Sweden	15, para. 4
	[16, paras. 1 (a), (c), (g) and (h)]	Germany Netherlands Sweden	16, paras. 1 (a), (c), (g) and (h)
	29, para. 1		
Bulgaria	[29, para. 1]		29, para. 1
Canada	[11, para. 1 (d)]		11, para. 1 (d)
Chile	(General declaration upon signature)		
China	29, para. 1		
Cuba	29, para. 1		
Cyprus	[9, para. 2]	Mexico	9, para. 2
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	2, para. (f)	Austria Denmark Finland France Germany Netherlands Norway Portugal Spain Sweden United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	

State party	*Articles for which declarations or reservations have been made*	*States parties that have raised objections*	*Articles for which reservations have been withdrawn*
	9, para. 2	Austria Denmark Finland France Germany Netherlands Norway Portugal Spain Sweden	
	29, para. 1		
Egypt	2	Germany Netherlands Sweden	
	9, para. 2	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	
	16	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	
	29, para. 1	Mexico	
El Salvador	29, para. 1		
Ethiopia	29, para. 1		
Fiji	[5, para. (a), and 9]	Netherlands	5, para. (a), and 9
France	[5, para. (b)] [7] 14, paras. 2 (c) and (h) [15, paras. 2 and 3] [16, paras. 1 (c), (d) and (h)] 16, para. 1 (g) 29, para. 1		5, para. (b) 7 15, paras. 2 and 3 16, paras. 1 (c), (d) and (h)
Germany	General declaration [7, para. (b)]		7, para. (b)
Hungary	[29, para. 1]		29, para. 1
India	5, para. (a)	Netherlands	
	16, para. 1	Netherlands	
	16, para. 2	Netherlands	
	29, para. 1		
Indonesia	29, para. 1		

State party	*Articles for which declarations or reservations have been made*	*States parties that have raised objections*	*Articles for which reservations have been withdrawn*
Iraq	2, paras. (f) and (g)	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	
	9, para. 1	Germany Israel Mexico Netherlands Sweden	
	9, para. 2	Germany Israel Mexico Netherlands	
	16	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	
	29, para. 1	Sweden	
Ireland	[9, para. 1] [11, para. 1] [13, para. (a)] 13, paras. (b) and (c) [15, para. 3] [15, para. 4] 16, paras. 1 (d) and (f)		9, para. 1 11, para. 1 (part) 13, para. (a) (part) 15, para. 3 15, para. 4
Israel	7, para. (b) 16 29, para. 1		
Italy	(Reservation upon signature)		
Jamaica	[9, para. 2]	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	9, para. 2
	29, para. 1		
Jordan	9, para. 2	Sweden	
	15, para. 4	Sweden	
	16, para. 1 (c), (d) and (g)	Sweden	
Kuwait	7, para. (a)	Austria Belgium Denmark Finland	

State party	*Articles for which declarations or reservations have been made*	*States parties that have raised objections*	*Articles for which reservations have been withdrawn*
		Netherlands Norway	
		Portugal Sweden	
	9, para. 2	Denmark	
		Finland Netherlands Norway Sweden	
	16, para. 1 (f)	Austria	
		Belgium	
		Denmark	
		Finland Netherlands Norway	
		Portugal Sweden	
	29, para. 1		
Lebanon	9, para. 2	Austria Denmark Netherlands Sweden	
	16, paras. 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g)		
	29, para. 1		
Lesotho	General	Denmark Finland Germany Mexico Netherlands Norway	
	2, para. (e)		
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	General	Denmark Finland Germany Mexico Netherlands Norway Sweden	
	2		
	16, para. 1 (c) and (d)		
Liechtenstein	1 [9, para. 2]		9, para. 2
Luxembourg	7		

State party	*Articles for which declarations or reservations have been made*	*States parties that have raised objections*	*Articles for which reservations have been withdrawn*
	16, para. 1 (g)		
Malawi	[5]	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	5
	[29, para. 2]		29, para. 2
Malaysia	[2, para. (f)] 5, para. (a) 7, para. (b) 9 11 16, paras. 1 (a), (c), (d), (f) and (g) 16, para. 2	Denmark Finland France Germany Netherlands Norway	2, para. (f)
Maldives	7, para. (a) 16	Austria Canada Denmark Finland Germany Netherlands Norway Portugal Sweden	
Malta	11, para. 1 13 15 16, para. 1 (e)		
Mauritania	General reservation	Austria Denmark Finland Germany Netherlands Norway Portugal Sweden United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	
Mauritius	[11, para. 1 (b) and (d)]	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	11, paras. 1 (b) and (d)

State party	*Articles for which declarations or reservations have been made*	*States parties that have raised objections*	*Articles for which reservations have been withdrawn*
	[16, para. 1 (g)]	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	16, para. 1 (g)
	29, para. 1		
Mexico	(General declaration upon signature)		
Mongolia	[29, para. 1]		29, para. 1
Morocco	2	Netherlands	
	9, para. 2	Netherlands	
	15, para. 4	Netherlands	
	16	Netherlands	
	29		
Myanmar	29		
Netherlands	General declaration		
New Zealand (Cook Islands, Niue)	Reservation		
	[11, para. 2 (b)]		11, para. 2 (b)
(Cook Islands)	2, para. (f)	Mexico Sweden	
	5, para. (a)		
(Cook Islands and Niue)	11, para. 2 (b)		
Niger	2, paras. (d) and (f) 5, paras. (a) and (b) 15, para. (4) 16, paras. 1 (c), (e) and (g)	Denmark Finland Norway Sweden	
	29, para. 1		
Pakistan	General declaration	Austria Denmark Finland Germany Netherlands Norway Portugal	
	29, para. 1		
Poland	[29, para. 1]		29, para. 1

State party	*Articles for which declarations or reservations have been made*	*States parties that have raised objections*	*Articles for which reservations have been withdrawn*
Republic of Korea	[9]	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	9
	16, paras. 1 [(c), (d), (f)] and (g)	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	16, paras. 1 (c), (d) and (f)
Romania	[29, para. 1]		29, para. 1
Russian Federation	[29, para. 1]		29, para. 1
Saudi Arabia	General reservation	Austria Denmark Finland France Germany Ireland Netherlands Norway Portugal Spain Sweden United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	
	9, para. 2		
	29, para.1		
Singapore	2	Denmark	
	11, para.1	Finland Netherlands Norway	
	16		
	29, para. 1	Sweden	
Spain	Declaration		
Switzerland	[7, para. (b)] 15, para. 2 16, para. 1 (g) 16, para. 1 (h)		7, para. (b)

State party	*Articles for which declarations or reservations have been made*	*States parties that have raised objections*	*Articles for which reservations have been withdrawn*
Syrian Arab Republic	2	Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	
	9, para. 2	Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Spain, Sweden	
	15, para. 4	Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Spain, Sweden	
	16, paras. 1(c), (d), (f) and (g)	Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	
	16, para. 2	Austria, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom	
	29, para. 1		
Thailand	7	Germany	
	[9, para. 2]	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	9, para. 2
	10	Germany	

State party	*Articles for which declarations or reservations have been made*	*States parties that have raised objections*	*Articles for which reservations have been withdrawn*
	[11, para. 1 (b)]	Germany	11, para. 1 (b)
	[15, para. 3]	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	15, para. 3
	16	Germany Mexico Netherlands Sweden	
	29, para. 1		
Trinidad and Tobago	29, para. 1		
Tunisia	9, para. 2	Germany Netherlands Sweden	
	15, para. 4	Germany Netherlands Sweden	
	16, paras. 1 (c), (d), (f), (g) and (h)	Germany Netherlands Sweden	
	29, para. 1		
Turkey	9, para. 1 (declaration)		
	[15, paras. 2 and 4]	Germany Mexico Netherlands	15, paras. 2 and 4
	[16, paras. 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g)]	Germany Mexico Netherlands	16, paras. 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g)
	29, para. 1		
Ukraine	[29, para. 1]		29, para. 1
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	(declarations) 1 [2, paras. (f) and (g)] 9 [10, para. (c)] 11, paras. 1 and 2 [13] 15, paras. 2 and 3 16, para. 1(f)	Argentina	2, paras. (f) and (g) 10, para. (c) 11, para. 1 (part) 13 15, para. 2

State party	*Articles for which declarations or reservations have been made*	*States parties that have raised objections*	*Articles for which reservations have been withdrawn*
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on behalf of: British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Isle of Man, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands	declarations 1, 2, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16		
Venezuela	29, para. 1		
Viet Nam	29, para. 1		
Yemen	29, para. 1		

Annex II

Articles of the Convention for which States parties have not yet withdrawn their reservations, as at 1 June 2004

Article	*State party*
1	Liechtenstein, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and on behalf of: British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands
2	Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Egypt, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Maldives, Morocco, Singapore, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on behalf of: British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands
2, para. (a)	Bahamas
2, para. (e)	Lesotho
2, para. (f)	Democratic People's Republic of Korea, New Zealand (Cook Islands)
2, paras. (d) and (f)	Niger
2, paras. (f) and (g)	Iraq
5, para. (a)	India, Malaysia, New Zealand (Cook Islands)
5, paras. (a) and (b)	Niger
7	Luxembourg, Thailand
7, para. (a)	Kuwait, Maldives
7, para. (b)	Israel, Malaysia
9	Malaysia, United Kingdom and on behalf of: British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands
9, para. 1	Turkey
9, paras. 1 and 2	Iraq
9, para. 2	Algeria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia
10	Thailand

Article	*State party*
11	Malaysia, United Kingdom and on behalf of: British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands
11, para. 1	Ireland, Malta, Singapore
11, para. 1 (f)	Austria
11, para. 2 (b)	Australia
13	Malta, United Kingdom on behalf of: British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands
13, paras. (b) and (c)	Ireland
14, paras. 2 (c) and (h)	France
15	Malta
15, para. 2	Switzerland
15, paras. 2 and 3	United Kingdom and on behalf of: British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands
15, para. 4	Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Morocco, Niger, Tunisia
16	Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Israel, Maldives, Malta, Morocco, Singapore, Thailand
16, para. 1	India
16, paras. 1 (a), (c), (d) (f) and (g)	Malaysia
16, para. 1 (c)	Bangladesh
16, paras. 1 (c) and (d)	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
16, paras. 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g)	Lebanon, Syrian Arab Republic
16, paras. 1 (c), (e), (g)	Niger
16, paras. 1 (c), (d), (f), (g) and (h)	Tunisia
16, paras. 1 (c), (d), (g)	Jordan
16, paras. 1 (d) and (f)	Ireland
16, para. 1 (e)	Malta

Article	*State party*
16, para. 1 (f)	Kuwait, United Kingdom on behalf of: British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands
16, para. 1 (g)	France, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea
16, paras. 1 (g) and (h)	Switzerland
16, para. 1 (h)	Bahamas
16, para. 2	India, Malaysia, Syrian Arab Republic
29, para. 1	Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Brazil, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritius, Morocco, Myanmar, Niger, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen

Annex III

States parties that maintain reservations to the Convention, as at 1 June 2004

Country	Article 1	Article 2	Article 3	Article 4	Article 5	Article 6	Article 7	Article 8	Article 9	Article 10	Article 11	Article 12	Article 13	Article 14	Article 15	Article 16	Article 29
Algeria		2							9.2						15.4	16	29
Argentina																	29.1
Australia											11.2 (b)						
Austria											11 (f)						
Bahamas		2 (a)							9.2							16.1 (h)	29.1
Bahrain		2							9.2						15.4	16	29.1
Bangladesh		2														16.1 (c)	
Brazil																	29.1
China																	29.1
Cuba																	29.1
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		2 (f)							9.2								29.1
Egypt		2							9.2							16	29.1
El Salvador																	29.1
Ethiopia																	29.1
France														14.2 (c), (h)		16.1 (g)	29.1
India					5 (a)											16.1 16.2	29.1
Indonesia																	29.1
Iraq		2 (f), (g)							9.1, 9.2							16	29.1
Ireland											11.1		13 (b), (c)			16.1 (d), (f)	
Israel							7 (b)									16	29.1
Jamaica																	29.1
Jordan									9.2						15.4	16.1 (c), (d), (g)	
Kuwait							7 (a)		9.2							16.1 (f)	29.1

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Country	Article 1	Article 2	Article 3	Article 4	Article 5	Article 6	Article 7	Article 8	Article 9	Article 10	Article 11	Article 12	Article 13	Article 14	Article 15	Article 16	Article 29
Lebanon									9.2							16.1 (c), (d), (f), (g)	29.1
Lesotho		2 (e)															
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		2														16.1 (c), (d)	
Liechtenstein	1																
Luxembourg							7									16.1 (g)	
Malaysia					5 (a)		7 (b)		9		11					16.1 (a), (c), (d), (f), (g) 16.2	
Maldives							7 (a)									16	
Malta											11.1		13		15	16.1 (e)	
Mauritania[a]																	
Mauritius																	29.1
Morocco		2							9.2						15.4	16	29.1
Myanmar																	29
New Zealand (Cook Islands)		2 (f)			5 (a)												
(Cook Islands and Niue)											11.2 (b)						
Niger		2 (d), (f)			5 (a), (b)										15.4	16.1 (c), (e), (g)	29.1
Pakistan[a]																	29.1
Republic of Korea																16.1 (g)	
Saudi Arabia[a]									9.2								29.1
Singapore		2									11.1					16	29.1
Spain[b]																	

Country	Article 1	Article 2	Article 3	Article 4	Article 5	Article 6	Article 7	Article 8	Article 9	Article 10	Article 11	Article 12	Article 13	Article 14	Article 15	Article 16	Article 29
Switzerland															15.2	16.1 (g), (h)	
Syrian Arab Republic		2							9.2						15.4	16.1 (c), (d), (f), (g); 16.2	29.1
Thailand							7			10						16	29.1
Trinidad and Tobago																	29.1
Tunisia									9.2						15.4	16.1 (c), (d), (f), (g), (h)	29.1
Turkey									9.1								29.1
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1[c]								9		11				15.2, 15.3	16.1 (f)	
United Kingdom[d]	1	2							9		11		13		15	16	
Venezuela																	29.1
Viet Nam																	29.1
Yemen																	29.1

[a] General reservation.

[b] Reservation concerning succession to the Spanish crown.

[c] Declaration.

[d] On behalf of: British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands.

Annex IV

Status of States parties with respect to the Convention, as at 1 June 2004

State	*Date of signature*	*Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession*
Afghanistan	14 August 1980	5 March 2003
Albania		11 May 1994[a]
Algeria		22 May 1996[a]
Andorra		15 January 1997[a]
Angola		17 September 1986[a]
Antigua and Barbuda		1 August 1989[a]
Argentina	17 July 1980	15 July 1985
Armenia		13 September 1993[a]
Australia	17 July 1980	28 July 1983
Austria	17 July 1980	31 March 1982
Azerbaijan		10 July 1995[a]
Bahamas		6 October 1993[a]
Bahrain		18 June 2002[a]
Bangladesh		6 November 1984[a]
Barbados	24 July 1980	16 October 1980
Belarus	17 July 1980	4 February 1981
Belgium	17 July 1980	10 July 1985
Belize	7 March 1990	16 May 1990
Benin	11 November 1981	12 March 1992
Bhutan	17 July 1980	31 August 1981
Bolivia	30 May 1980	8 June 1990
Bosnia and Herzegovina		1 September 1993[b]
Botswana		13 August 1996[a]
Brazil	31 March 1981	1 February 1984
Bulgaria	17 July 1980	8 February 1982

State	*Date of signature*	*Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession*
Burkina Faso		14 October 1987[a]
Burundi	17 July 1980	8 January 1992
Cambodia	17 October 1980	15 October 1992[a]
Cameroon	6 June 1983	23 August 1994[a]
Canada	17 July 1980	10 December 1981
Cape Verde		5 December 1980[a]
Central African Republic		21 June 1991[a]
Chad		9 June 1995[a]
Chile	17 July 1980	7 December 1989
China	17 July 1980	4 November 1980
Colombia	17 July 1980	19 January 1982
Comoros		31 October 1994[a]
Congo	29 July 1980	26 July 1982
Costa Rica	17 July 1980	4 April 1986
Côte d'Ivoire	17 July 1980	18 December 1995[a]
Croatia		9 September 1992[b]
Cuba	6 March 1980	17 July 1980
Cyprus		23 July 1985[a]
Czech Republic		22 February 1993
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		27 February 2001[a]
Democratic Republic of the Congo	17 July 1980	17 October 1986
Denmark	17 July 1980	21 April 1983
Djibouti		2 December 1998[a]
Dominica	15 September 1980	15 September 1980
Dominican Republic	17 July 1980	2 September 1982
Ecuador	17 July 1980	9 November 1981
Egypt	16 July 1980	18 September 1981

State	*Date of signature*	*Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession*
El Salvador	14 November 1980	19 August 1981
Equatorial Guinea		23 October 1984[a]
Eritrea		5 September 1995[a]
Estonia		21 October 1991[a]
Ethiopia	8 July 1980	10 September 1981
Fiji		28 August 1995[a]
Finland	17 July 1980	4 September 1986
France	17 July 1980	14 December 1983
Gabon	17 July 1980	21 January 1983
Gambia	29 July 1980	16 April 1993
Georgia		26 October 1994[a]
Germany[c]	17 July 1980	10 July 1985
Ghana	17 July 1980	2 January 1986
Greece	2 March 1982	7 June 1983
Grenada	17 July 1980	30 August 1990
Guatemala	8 June 1981	12 August 1982
Guinea	17 July 1980	9 August 1982
Guinea-Bissau	17 July 1980	23 August 1985
Guyana	17 July 1980	17 July 1980
Haiti	17 July 1980	20 July 1981
Honduras	11 June 1980	3 March 1983
Hungary	6 June 1980	22 December 1980
Iceland	24 July 1980	18 June 1985
India	30 July 1980	9 July 1993
Indonesia	29 July 1980	13 September 1984
Iraq		13 August 1986[a]
Ireland		23 December 1985[a]
Israel	17 July 1980	3 October 1991

State	*Date of signature*	*Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession*
Italy	17 July 1980	10 June 1985
Jamaica	17 July 1980	19 October 1984
Japan	17 July 1980	25 June 1985
Jordan	3 December 1980	1 July 1992
Kazakhstan		26 August 1998[a]
Kenya		9 March 1984[a]
Kiribati		17 March 2004[a]
Kuwait		2 September 1994[a]
Kyrgyzstan		10 February 1997[a]
Lao People's Democratic Republic	17 July 1980	14 August 1981
Latvia		14 April 1992[a]
Lebanon		16 April 1997[a]
Lesotho	17 July 1980	22 August 1995[a]
Liberia		17 July 1984[a]
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		16 May 1989[a]
Liechtenstein		22 December 1995[a]
Lithuania		18 January 1994[a]
Luxembourg	17 July 1980	2 February 1989
Madagascar	17 July 1980	17 March 1989
Malawi		12 March 1987[a]
Malaysia		5 July 1995[a]
Maldives		1 July 1993[a]
Mali	5 February 1985	10 September 1985
Malta		8 March 1991[a]
Mauritania		10 May 2001[a]
Mauritius		9 July 1984[a]
Mexico	17 July 1980	23 March 1981
Mongolia	17 July 1980	20 July 1981

State	*Date of signature*	*Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession*
Morocco		21 June 1993[a]
Mozambique		16 April 1997[a]
Myanmar		22 July 1997[a]
Namibia		23 November 1992[a]
Nepal	5 February1991	22 April 1991
Netherlands	17 July 1980	23 July 1991
New Zealand	17 July 1980	10 January 1985
Nicaragua	17 July 1980	27 October 1981
Niger		8 October 1999[a]
Nigeria	23 April 1984	13 June 1985
Norway	17 July 1980	21 May 1981
Pakistan		12 March 1996[a]
Panama	26 June 1980	29 October 1981
Papua New Guinea		12 January 1995[a]
Paraguay		6 April 1987[a]
Peru	23 July 1981	13 September 1982
Philippines	15 July 1980	5 August 1981
Poland	29 May 1980	30 July 1980
Portugal	24 April 1980	30 July 1980
Republic of Korea	25 May 1983	27 December 1984
Republic of Moldova		1 July 1994[a]
Romania	4 September 1980	7 January 1982
Russian Federation	17 July 1980	23 January 1981
Rwanda	1 May 1980	2 March 1981
Saint Kitts and Nevis		25 April 1985[a]
Saint Lucia		8 October 1982[a]
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		4 August 1981[a]
Samoa		25 September 1992[a]

State	*Date of signature*	*Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession*
San Marino	26 September 2003	10 December 2003[a]
Sao Tome and Principe	31 October 1995	3 June 2003
Saudi Arabia	7 September 2000	7 September 2000
Senegal	29 July 1980	5 February 1985
Serbia and Montenegro		12 March 2001[b]
Seychelles		5 May 1992
Sierra Leone	21 September 1988	11 November 1988
Singapore		5 October 1995[a]
Slovakia[d]		28 May 1993[b]
Slovenia		6 July 1992[b]
Solomon Islands		6 May 2002[a]
South Africa	29 January 1993	15 December 1995[a]
Spain	17 July 1980	5 January 1984
Sri Lanka	17 July 1980	5 October 1981
Suriname		1 March 1993[a]
Swaziland		26 March 2004[a]
Sweden	7 March 1980	2 July 1980
Switzerland	23 January 1987	27 March 1997[a]
Syrian Arab Republic		28 March 2003[a]
Tajikistan		26 October 1993[a]
Thailand		9 August 1985[a]
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		18 January 1994[b]
Timor-Leste		16 April 2003[a]
Togo		26 September 1983[a]
Trinidad and Tobago	27 June 1985	12 January 1990
Tunisia	24 July 1980	20 September 1985
Turkey		20 December 1985[a]
Turkmenistan		1 May 1997[a]

State	*Date of signature*	*Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession*
Tuvalu		6 October 1999[a]
Uganda	30 July 1980	22 July 1985
Ukraine	17 July 1980	12 March 1981
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	22 July 1981	7 April 1986
United Republic of Tanzania	17 July 1980	20 August 1985
United States of America	17 July 1980	
Uruguay	30 March 1981	9 October 1981
Uzbekistan		19 July 1995[a]
Vanuatu		8 September 1995[a]
Venezuela	17 July 1980	2 May 1983
Viet Nam	29 July 1980	17 February 1982
Yemen[e]		30 May 1984[a]
Zambia	17 July 1980	21 June 1985
Zimbabwe		13 May 1991[a]

[a] Accession.
[b] Succession.
[c] With effect from 3 October 1990, the German Democratic Republic (which ratified the Convention on 9 July 1980) and the Federal Republic of Germany (which ratified the Convention on 10 July 1985) united to form one sovereign State, which acts in the United Nations under the designation of "Germany".
[d] Before becoming a separate State on 1 January 1993, the Czech Republic and Slovakia formed part of Czechoslovakia, which had ratified the Convention on 16 February 1982. The Convention entered into force on 18 March 1982.
[e] On 22 May 1990, Democratic Yemen and Yemen merged to form a single State, which acts in the United Nations under the designation of "Yemen".

Annex V

States parties that have deposited with the Secretary-General instruments of acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention, as at 1 June 2004

State party	*Acceptance date*
Andorra	14 October 2002
Australia	4 June 1998
Austria	11 September 2000
Bahamas	17 January 2003
Brazil	5 March 1997
Canada	3 November 1997
Chile	8 May 1998
China	10 July 2002
Croatia	24 October 2003
Cyprus	30 July 2002
Denmark	12 March 1996
Egypt	2 August 2001
Finland	18 March 1996
France	8 August 1997
Germany	25 February 2002
Guatemala	3 June 1999
Iceland	8 May 2002
Italy	31 May 1996
Japan	12 June 2002
Jordan	11 January 2002
Lesotho	12 November 2001
Liechtenstein	15 April 1997
Luxembourg	1 July 2003
Madagascar	19 July 1996

State party	*Acceptance date*
Maldives	7 February 2002
Mali	20 June 2002
Malta	5 March 1997
Mauritius	29 October 2002
Mexico	16 September 1996
Mongolia	19 December 1997
Netherlands[a]	10 December 1997
New Zealand	26 September 1996
Niger	1 May 2002
Norway	29 March 1996
Panama	5 November 1996
Philippines	12 November 2003
Portugal	8 January 2002
Republic of Korea	12 August 1996
Sweden	17 July 1996
Switzerland	2 December 1997
Turkey	9 December 1999
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland[b]	19 November 1996
Uruguay	8 January 2004

[a] For the Kingdom in Europe, the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba.
[b] For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man, the British Virgin Islands, and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Annex VI

States parties that have signed and ratified the Optional Protocol, as at 1 June 2004

State party	*Date of signature*	*Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification or accession*
Albania		23 June 2003[a]
Andorra	9 July 2001	14 October 2002
Argentina	28 February 2000	
Austria	10 December 1999	6 September 2000
Azerbaijan	6 June 2000	1 June 2001
Bangladesh[b]	6 September 2000	6 September 2000
Belarus	29 April 2002	3 February 2002
Belgium[c]	10 December 1999	
Belize[d]		9 December 2002[a]
Benin	25 May 2000	
Bolivia	10 December 1999	27 September 2000
Bosnia and Herzegovina	7 September 2000	4 September 2002
Brazil	13 March 2001	28 June 2002
Bulgaria	6 June 2000	
Burkina Faso	16 November 2001	
Burundi	13 November 2001	
Cambodia	11 November 2001	
Canada		18 October 2002[a]
Chile	10 December 1999	
Colombia	10 December 1999	
Costa Rica	10 December 1999	20 September 2001
Croatia	5 June 2000	7 March 2001
Cuba[e]	17 March 2000	
Cyprus	8 February 2001	26 April 2002
Czech Republic	10 December 1999	26 February 2001

State party	*Date of signature*	*Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification or accession*
Denmark	10 December 1999	31 May 2000
Dominican Republic	14 March 2000	10 August 2001
Ecuador	10 December 1999	5 February 2002
El Salvador	4 April 2001	
Finland	10 December 1999	29 December 2000
France	10 December 1999	9 June 2000
Georgia		1 August 2002[a]
Germany	10 December 1999	15 January 2002
Ghana	24 February 2000	
Greece	10 December 1999	24 January 2002
Guatemala	7 September 2000	9 May 2002
Guinea-Bissau	12 September 2000	
Hungary		22 December 2000[a]
Iceland	10 December 1999	6 March 2001
Indonesia	28 February 2000	
Ireland	7 September 2000	7 September 2000
Italy	10 December 1999	22 September 2000
Kazakhstan	6 September 2000	24 August 2001
Kyrgyzstan		22 July 2003[a]
Lesotho	6 September 2000	
Liechtenstein	10 December 1999	24 October 2001
Lithuania	8 September 2000	
Luxembourg	10 December 1999	1 July 2003
Madagascar	7 September 2000	
Malawi	7 September 2000	
Mali		5 December 2000[a]
Mauritius	11 November 2001	
Mexico	10 December 1999	15 March 2002

State party	*Date of signature*	*Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification or accession*
Mongolia	7 September 2000	28 March 2002
Namibia	19 May 2000	26 May 2000
Nepal	18 December 2001	
Netherlands[f]	10 December 1999	22 May 2002
New Zealand[g]	7 September 2000	7 September 2000
Nigeria	8 September 2000	
Norway	10 December 1999	5 March 2002
Panama	9 June 2000	9 May 2001
Paraguay	28 December 1999	14 May 2001
Peru	22 December 2000	9 April 2001
Philippines	21 March 2000	12 November 2003
Poland		22 December 2003[a]
Portugal	16 February 2000	26 April 2002
Romania	6 September 2000	25 August 2003
Russian Federation	8 May 2001	
Sao Tome and Principe	6 September 2000	
Senegal	10 December 1999	26 May 2000
Serbia and Montenegro		31 July 2003[a]
Seychelles	22 July 2002	
Sierra Leone	8 September 2000	
Slovakia	5 June 2000	17 November 2000
Slovenia	10 December 1999	
Solomon Islands		6 May 2002[a]
Spain	14 March 2000	6 July 2001
Sri Lanka		15 October 2002[a]
Sweden	10 December 1999	24 April 2003
Tajikistan	7 September 2000	
Thailand	14 June 2000	14 June 2000

State party	*Date of signature*	*Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification or accession*
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	3 April 2000	17 October 2003
Timor-Leste		16 April 2003[a]
Turkey	8 September 2000	29 October 2002
Ukraine	7 September 2000	26 September 2003
Uruguay	9 May 2000	26 July 2001
Venezuela	17 March 2000	13 May 2002

[a] Accession.

[b] Bangladesh, upon signature and ratification, made the following declaration: "The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh declares, in accordance with article 10 (1) thereof, that it would not undertake the obligations arising out of articles 8 and 9 of the said Optional Protocol."

[c] Belgium, upon signature, made the following declaration: "The Flemish, French and German-speaking communities of Belgium are equally bound by this signature."

[d] Belize, upon accession, made the following declaration: "Belize, after having carefully considered articles 8 and 9 of the Optional Protocol, hereby declares that it does not recognize the competence of the Committee provided for in articles 8 and 9."

[e] Cuba, upon signature, made the following declaration: "The Government of the Republic of Cuba declares that it does not recognize the competence of the Committee established by virtue of articles 8 and 9 of the Protocol."

[f] For the Kingdom in Europe, the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba.

[g] New Zealand, upon signature and ratification, made a declaration to the effect that "consistent with the constitutional status of Tokelau and taking into account its commitment to the development of self-government through an act of self-determination under the Charter of the United Nations, this ratification shall not extend to Tokelau unless and until a declaration to this effect is lodged by the Government of New Zealand with the depositary on the basis of appropriate consultation with that territory".